

Appl. No.: 10/618,223
Amdt. dated 08/03/2005
Reply to Office action of February 17, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 2, 9, 25-36 and 38 without prejudice.

1. (Currently Amended) A device that allows a user to calculate the length and diameter of a suitable interventional prosthesis as well as the height and length of stenosis during the same exploratory procedure, the device comprising:

an exterior conduit longitudinally extending between proximal and distal ends, the exterior conduit having measurement markers formed on a portion thereof;

an interior conduit longitudinally extending between proximal and distal ends, disposed within the exterior conduit, and displaceable with respect to the exterior conduit, the interior conduit having a depth marking mechanism visible through a portion of the exterior conduit;

a measurement assembly comprising at least two legs having distal and proximal ends and inward facing and lumen facing surfaces wherein the inward facing surfaces of the legs are substantially flush with one another when the measurement assembly is closed, the legs coupled with each other proximal the distal ends thereof, the measurement assembly also coupled about the distal end of the interior conduit;

a handle operatively connected with the measurement assembly, the handle comprising a means for opening and closing the measurement assembly by actuating the handle along a continuum between a first closed configuration and a second open configuration.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~[[2]]~~1, wherein when the measurement assembly is moved distally in relation to the ~~first~~exterior conduit, the legs form an acute angle with respect to one another.

4. (Original) The device of claim 3, wherein the measurement assembly further comprises a third leg.

5. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the distal ends of the legs are coupled together, wherein measurement of the target site takes place between the distal and proximal ends thereof of the legs.

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6. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the handle further comprises a measurement indicator, wherein target lumen dimensions are calculated based on the relative distance the handle travels along the continuum between ~~the~~ first and second handle locations.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of measuring a target segment of a lumen of a patient so as to select a suitable interventional prosthesis, the method comprising:

providing a measuring device having an exterior conduit longitudinally extending between proximal and distal ends, the exterior conduit having measurement markers formed on a portion thereof; an interior conduit longitudinally extending between proximal and distal ends, disposed within the exterior conduit, and displaceable with respect to the exterior conduit, the interior conduit having a depth marking mechanism visible through a portion of the exterior conduit; a measurement assembly comprising at least two legs having distal and proximal ends and inward facing and lumen facing surfaces wherein the inward facing surfaces of the legs are substantially flush with one another when the measurement assembly is closed, the legs coupled with each other proximal the distal ends thereof, the measurement assembly also coupled about the distal end of the interior conduit; a handle operatively connected with the measurement assembly, the handle comprising a means for opening and closing the measurement assembly by actuating the handle along a continuum between a first closed configuration and a second open configuration;

introducing the device into an appropriate anatomical orifice of a patient;
delivering the device adjacent a target segment of a lumen within the patient; and
measuring the length of the target segment of the lumen within the patient.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the device further comprises an optical scope operatively coupled therewith, such that the measuring step is accomplished using the optical scope.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[9]]~~7, wherein when the measurement assembly is moved distally in relation to the ~~first exterior~~ conduit, the legs form an acute angle with respect to one another.

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11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the measurement assembly further comprises a third leg.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the distal ends of the legs are coupled together, wherein measurement of the target site takes place between the distal and proximal ends thereof of the legs.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the handle further comprises a measurement indicator, wherein target lumen dimensions are calculated based on the relative distance the handle travels along the continuum between ~~[[the]]~~a first and second handle locations.

14. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of measuring the diameter of the target segment of the lumen within the patient.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the diameter measuring step comprises the step of actuating the handle along the continuum from the first closed configuration toward the second open configuration until the legs of the measurement ~~mechanism~~assembly come in contact with the target segment of the lumen and calculating the length as a function of the number of leg measurement markings distal the exterior conduit.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the target segment of the lumen is stenotic.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the device further comprises an optical scope operatively coupled therewith, such that the measuring step is accomplished using the optical scope to view placement of the measurement assembly.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of measuring the length of the stenosis.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the delivering step further comprises the step of positioning the distal end of the first conduit distal the stenosis.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the measurement ~~mechanism~~assembly is opened and placed distal the stenosis such that the exterior conduit is retracted and the stenosis length measurement is a function of the distance the exterior conduit is retracted proximally.

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21. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the stenosis length measuring step comprises the step of actuating the handle along the continuum from the first closed configuration toward the second open configuration until the legs of the measurement mechanism come in contact with the target segment of the lumen and calculating the length as a function of the distance between the first handle position and the current point of the handle along the continuum.

22. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of measuring the height of the stenosis.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising the step of measuring the length of the stenosis.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of measuring a target segment of a lumen of a patient so as to select a suitable interventional prosthesis, the method comprising:

providing a measuring device having an exterior conduit longitudinally extending between proximal and distal ends, the exterior conduit having measurement markers formed on a portion thereof; an interior conduit longitudinally extending between proximal and distal ends, disposed within the exterior conduit, and displaceable with respect to the exterior conduit, the interior conduit having a depth marking mechanism visible through a portion of the exterior conduit; a measurement assembly comprising four legs having distal and proximal ends and inward facing and lumen facing surfaces wherein the inward facing surfaces of the legs are substantially flush with one another when the measurement assembly is closed, the legs coupled with each other proximal the distal ends thereof, the measurement assembly also coupled about the distal end of the interior conduit; a handle operatively connected with the measurement assembly, the handle comprising a means for opening and closing the measurement assembly by actuating the handle along a continuum between a first closed configuration and a second open configuration;

introducing the device into an appropriate anatomical orifice of a patient;
delivering the device adjacent a target segment of a lumen within the patient; and
measuring the diameter of the target segment of the lumen within the patient.

25-36. (Cancelled)

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37. (Currently Amended) A device that allows a user to calculate the length and diameter of a suitable interventional prosthesis as well as the height and length of stenosis during the some exploratory procedure, the device comprising:

an exterior conduit longitudinally extending between proximal and distal ends, the exterior conduit having measurement markers formed on a portion thereof;

an interior conduit longitudinally extending between proximal and distal ends, disposed within the exterior conduit, and displaceable with respect to the exterior conduit;

a measurement assembly comprising a plurality of legs having distal and proximal ends and inward facing and lumen facing surfaces wherein the inward facing surfaces of the legs are substantially flush with one another when the measurement assembly is closed, the legs coupled with each other proximal the distal ends thereof, the measurement assembly also coupled about the distal end of the interior conduit;

a handle operatively connected with the measurement assembly, the handle comprising a means for opening and closing the measurement assembly by actuating the handle along a continuum between a first closed configuration and a second open configuration.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~[[38]]~~37, wherein when the measurement assembly is moved distally in relation to the ~~[[first]]~~exterior conduit, the legs form an acute angle with respect to one another.

40. (Original) The device of claim 39, wherein the measurement assembly comprises four legs.

41. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 37, wherein the distal ends of the legs are coupled together, wherein measurement of the target site takes place between the distal and proximal ends ~~thereof~~of the legs.

42. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 37, wherein the handle further comprises a measurement indicator, wherein target lumen dimensions are calculated based on the relative distance the handle travels along the continuum between ~~[[the]]~~a first and second handle locations.